

**ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES  
2010-11**

**General Program Information:**

Wisconsin Alternative Education Program legislation enacted in October 1999 provides funds for grants to public school districts and consortia of school districts to develop new or to expand existing alternative education programs and schools. The statutory language (§115.366) and administrative code (PI 44) establish the criteria for program implementation by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Copies of statutory language and administrative code may be obtained at the local library or on the Internet at: [www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/)

**Availability of Grant Money:**

Alternative education funds will be provided to successful applicants on a competitive basis. Applicants are encouraged to develop partnerships and to form consortiums. Contingent on continuing funding and program compliance, awards will be for five years: 100% for years one through three, 60% for year four and 40% for year five. \$1.1 million is available for programs beginning in the 2010-11 school year. Current grantees are prohibited from seeking funds during this application period.

**Range of Awards:**

A typical grant award will range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 after grant negotiations. Every budget line item must relate directly to, and be supportive of, the goals and objectives of the alternative education program. A maximum of 10% of the grant award may be used for program administration. Grants may be used in concert with, **but may not be used to supplant** existing fund sources. Awards will be made to applicants whose proposed alternative education program is likely to have the greatest potential of successfully meeting students' needs.

**Funding Limitation:**

Since this is a competitive program, there may not be sufficient resources to fully fund each applicant for the amount requested. However, to the extent practical, grant awards will be equitably distributed among school districts and/or consortiums in rural and urban areas in different geographic areas throughout the state.

**Allowable Expenditures:**

School districts or consortiums may use grant funds to purchase equipment, materials and supplies that are directly related to the alternative education program or school. Funds may also be used to pay reasonable transportation costs; for salaries and fringe benefits for the program support staff, teachers and administrators; and for program relevant computer hardware and software. Funds may not be used to reimburse grant writing expenses for this grant.

**Number of Proposals:**

Each school district or consortium of school districts may submit only one grant application. **School districts currently receiving grant funding from this program are ineligible.**

**Examples of Programs:**

Alternative education programs/schools include those that are offered in cooperation with consortia, CESAs, other educational entities, community-based organizations, social service providers and/or technical colleges. Applications should be planned, developed and implemented around the needs of students who are not being successful in the traditional school setting. Typical alternative education programs offer innovative courses or curricula to students who are credit deficient, suspended, expelled, truant or adjudicated. A wide variety of program options may be considered from after-school tutoring to comprehensive programs with support services.

**Student Access:**

Grant recipients must state how students will be selected in a manner that assures equitable access to the program without regard for a student's gender, race, national origin, color, disability, sexual orientation and/or age.

**Submission Deadline:**

Grant applications, properly completed and signed by the appropriate official(s) representing the school district or consortium, must be delivered to/received at the DPI at the address below by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The original signed application and 7 copies are required. Grant applications that are submitted after the deadline or that are incomplete will not be evaluated or considered for funding.

**Review Process:**

Each application will be objectively evaluated (against required information) and subjectively evaluated (compared to similar applications). Knowledgeable persons who have no personal or vested interest in applications being considered for funding will present funding recommendations to the State Superintendent who will make final decisions.

**Program Accountability:**

DPI will reimburse school districts or consortiums for their alternative education program expenditures according to established procedures. Grant recipients must account for funds using codes from the Wisconsin Uniform Financial Accounting Requirements (WUFAR). Applications must include evidence of board or sponsor support, confirmed by the appropriate signatures.

**For More Information:**

Applications (PI 9710) and program information may be found on the Internet at:  
[www.dpi.state.wi.us/alternativeed/alted.html](http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/alternativeed/alted.html)

**Information session will be held:**

|                            |        |                                                       |
|----------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| January 7, 2010            | 1p.m.  | CESA 11, 225 Ostermann Drive, Turtle Lake, WI         |
| January 11, 2010           | 4 p.m. | DPI, Room 041, 125 S. Webster, Madison, WI            |
| December 2008 – March 2009 |        | Media Site Web Presentation (see enclosed directions) |

**Questions should be directed to:**

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